Severe Weather Risk Thursday, February 20, 2014

Threat Assessment for south-central Indiana and central Kentucky

Prepared: 2/20/14 7:30 AM EST

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Forecast



Weather Forecast for Thu, Feb 20, 2014, issued 3:36 AM EST DOC/NOAA/NWS/NGEP/Weather Feb 2014, issued 3:36 AM EST Prepared by Bush based on WPC SPC and NHC forecasts

- A warm front moved north across the area this morning.
- A strong cold front will move through this evening bringing strong to severe thunderstorms.
- Ahead of the storms winds will become gusty through the afternoon hours.





Severe Weather Outlook



Storm Prediction Center Day 1 Outlook

– Thursday

Issued 713 AM EST Thu February 20, 2012

- The Storm Prediction Center has placed southern Indiana in a SLIGHT risk while much of central Kentucky has been placed in a MODERATE risk of severe weather.
- Primary threats:
 - Damaging winds
 - Isolated tornadoes
- Highest threat of severe weather will be between 4PM EST today and 12 AM EST Friday in the red shaded area.



Expected Impacts

Wind: Damaging winds in excess of 65 MPH within a squall line are *LIKELY* this evening. In addition, the combination of tree damage from recent icing events and the recent snowmelt has led to very soggy ground. Therefore, the high wind threat with the squall line may result in higher than normal numbers of trees and branches coming down. Gradient winds outside of thunderstorms will be strong today. Sustained winds of 20 to 30 MPH with gusts up to 50 MPH will be possible. A Wind Advisory is in effect from 10 AM EST today to 1 AM EST Friday.

Tornadoes: Isolated tornadoes embedded within the squall line will be possible late this afternoon and evening.

Hail: Large hail is not expected, though some small hail may occur over central Kentucky this afternoon and evening.





Expected Impacts

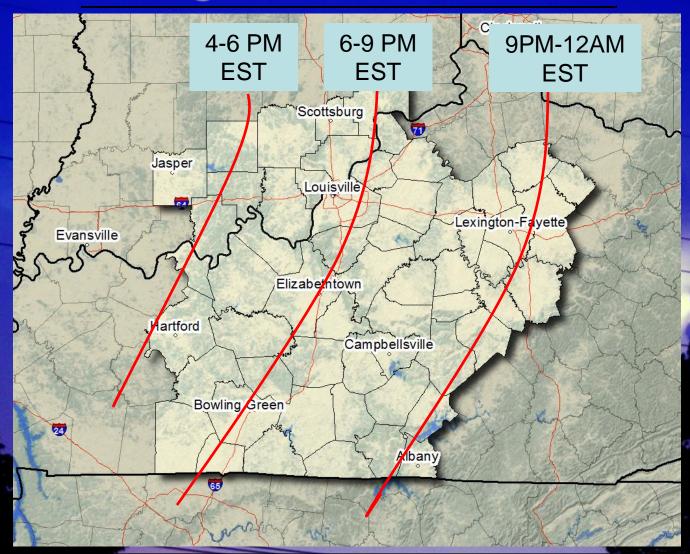
Flooding: Rainfall amounts of one to as much as two inches will be possible. This rainfall combined with the recent snow melt may result in localized flash flooding in some areas. A Flash Flood Watch is in effect from 4 PM today -1 AM EST Friday for the area highlighted below.







Timing for Severe Storms



Summary

- Strong to severe thunderstorms this afternoon and evening.
- Highest threat is damaging winds in excess of 60 MPH. Isolated tornadoes are possible as well.
- Recent tree damage due to icing events and soggy ground from recent snowmelt may result in a higher than normal number of trees and limbs coming down due to expected high winds.
- Localized flash flooding is possible due to the expected rainfall and saturated ground conditions.
- Gusty winds can be expected this afternoon ahead of the storms.



